MEXICO.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEWS.

The Capture of Oajaca by the Imperial Army.

Surrender of the Carrison of Five Thousand Men at Discretion, with All Their Munitions of War.

General Porfirio Diaz Submits to the Empire.

Continued Arrival of Austrian and Belgian Troops.

Defeat and Capture of the Liberal Armies at Jalisco, Toluca and Zacatlan.

Generals Rojas and Romero Taken Prisoners and the Former Killed.

Organization of the Mexican National Army.

The Empire Divided Into Seven Military Departments.

POSITION OF JUAREZ AT CHIHUAHUA.

Arrival of the British Minister, and His Reception by the Imperial Court.

ARRIVAL OF PIERRE SOULE AT THE CAPITAL.

Celebration of Washington's Birthday by Loyal Americans in Mexico,

CITY OF MEXICO, Feb. 19, 1865. ent of the year, thus far, has been pture of Cajaca, with its entire garrison, consisting the five thousand men, by the French army under hal Bazaine. The Franco-Mexican press is daily re-ng the details, which are sent by courier to Puebla, he most sanguine adherents of the empire were not prepared for so complete and speedy a result, which as effectually ends the war in the southern portion of Mexico as the surrender of Richmond would in Virginia. es forces, and in that respect may be considered so having been the Richmond of Mexico. In estimating ortance of this event, it is necessary to take into ration the small amount of military force employern Mexico, with five thousand men, cannon and of war, together with Portirio Diaz, the princi-ist general, weighs as heavily against the liberals Juarist general, weighs as heavily against the liberals ten times that force would in the United States. The of Oajaca, if such it may be called, lasted but a day the time of the arrival of Basaine and the comment of his plans for its reduction. The campaign States of Cajaca and Puebla into Gu h new lies evidently at the mercy of the French, and rould have required months to have reached slee direct. The best military judges here conferior as an accomplished fact. Henceforth the liberals an ealy hope to make front in the northern departats, and there the scarcity of population will enable in to collect only scattered bands led by one and an-

The news from other parts of the empire are equally avorable to Maximilian. The noted guerilla chiefs ajas and Romero, have both been defeated, and their no, a few weeks since, and the capture last atlan, with its entire garrison and munitions of war, and it will appear that the moral of success is with the imperial forces, which are now being ely reinforced by the continual arrival of Austria and Belgian troops, who are marched at once into the in-DEFEAT OF THE PRENCH TROOPS

On the other hand the liberals have met with a de-cided success is Sinaloa, where the French troops, march-ing inland from the vicinity of Mazathan, were surprised and routed, with a severe loss in killed and wounded. There are now in Sinaloa, counting those that have been of the empire within six weeks, about three thousand esperial troops—seventeen hundred, under command of ndred, under General Garnier, to remain in Sinalos short but desperate fight, carried the place and took

ters, where, with a small force and his "cabinet, be has established his temporary seat of government, being with him all the national archives which he took from the palace in his flight from Mexico, at the entrance of the French in the spring of 1863. It is stated here that a large quantity of arms and ammunition had been seized by the Custom House authorities at San Francisco, his forces, and that the non-arrival of these had greatly discouraged Juarez and his party. The story, however, is probably another version of the seizure of muskets on card one of the San Francisco and Mexican steamships

ore than a year ago.

For five or six months, until quite recently, the gene al course of events had been unfavorable to the French; within a few weeks, owing to the more Judicious stion of the imperial forces, the adoption of some satures in conducting guerilla warfare, and the conation of plans which it required months to carry into effect, the tide has changed, until French successes form the burden of news from all points. General Por Diaz and his officers, lately captured at Oajaca, have already intimated their desire to give to adhension formally to the government, there now remains only a ghost of an under Alvarez and the few ill-supplied troops attacked to Juarez himself in the far

as with all the European Powers are growing more and offered their submission to the government, con-vinced like ex-Senator Foote, that it was all up with their party, and that discretion was the better part of valor. Besides the able General Romero, already men-tioned, there are also Generals Cuellar and Gonzales stes, on the Gulf coast, who appeared before the store of Orizaba a few days since, giving in their ion to the empire and requesting safe conduct to

The other day a delegation of Indian chiefs presenting the powerful savage tribes of inrior Yucatan and Campasohy, arrived at Verarus, and being conducted at government expense,
the capital, were presented to the Emperor,
heir addresses were in the genuine style of the red
an, offering eternal allegiance to their new father and
rotector, and all that, and accompanying their rows of
delity with specimens of their rude industry and agriultural products. His Majesty was dressed in his most
plendid uniform for the occasion, looked every inch the
imperor, and evidently produced on his primitive and
ratified visitors a suitable effect.

Every seaport on both sides of the continent is in possession of the imperial forces, excepting Acapuleo from
which the troops were withdrawn a few weeks since to
lugment the army of Sonors and Sinalea. The fall of
hajaca places Acapuleo and the entire Pacific coast, from
febuantepee up, in the imperial power. The debarkation
of war munitions of any kind from abroad is thus precented, as well as the passage of bodies of Juarist troops
by sea from port to port. The Liberals possess no manulactures of powder or arms; their supply of war material
is constantly decreasing by successive captures, while
that of the Empire is constantly augmenting. Then,
too, the demoralization, begotten of repeated defeats, is
already selzing on the liberals, whose operations are
now virtually confined to a system of guerilla warfare,
which, at best, can only be prolonged a few months.
Maximilian will then be at liberty to direct his attention
to forwarding the important public works he has thus far
encouraged by all means in his power.

These are, in brief, the actual facts as to the situation
of affairs in Mexico. To support them I might fill your
columns with details such as come to the knowledge of
every unbiassed spectator, but the true state of the case
is patent to all.

Those writers who, for the sake of leaeing American pre-

coriums with details such as come to the knowledge of every unbiassed spectator, but the true state of the case is patent to all.

Those writers who, for the sake of leasing American prejudice in the required direction, exaggerate small reverses and belittle important truths, serve only to deceive the public as to what is transpiring in this country. For the want of a regular correspondent in Mexico one of your contemporaries recently published some "important semi-official intelligence" which rather astonished such as could read English in these regions and got a sight at the paper in question. By that account the city of Morella, about eight hours' ride from here, had been assaulted and taken by storm by the liberais, several other equally important places captured, and the whole imperial fabric tumbling to pieces. The Archbishop and the Pope's Nuncio, according to this veracious correspondence, had packed their trunks and sailed in disgust for Europe, and the very deuce was to pay generally. Not only has Morelia not been taken, but no attempt of the kind has been made. Not a glost of a liberal force has been near Morelia for months, while the Archbishop and Pope's Nuncio are quietly smoking their cigaritos and enolying themselves after the most approved Mexican fashion, at least they were, a few evenings since, at a ball given by General Almonte to some of the foreign visitors at the capital. The liberals in Mexico, writing to their friends in the United States, often state for facts what are merely surmises or rumors of the moment, and as anything from here in the shape of news appears to be acceptable some of the prees are not always scrupulous about the authority whence they obtain it.

THE MEXICAN ARMY.

Within a few days the official press has published from

tion of his success. He is making friends everywhere, and showing a capacity and energy of character which command respect and point him out as a natural leader.

The Austrian and Belgian troops are volunteers for the Mexican service for a term of six years. They have special privileges over other soldiers of their own countries, and are allowed at the close of their term a certain amount of government land, the policy of which is not only to tempt good men into the adventure, but it offers an inducement for them to remain as permanent settlers. The Mexican service has been so popular among officers of the Austrian army, partly from a personal regard for the young Emperor, and partly from the romance of the thing—"Halls of the Montezums," and all that—that when volunteers were called for from among them nearly a half of the entire body offered themselves, and it became necessary to select. Among the Austran and Belgian officers who have recently arrived here are any amount of titled and aristocratic springs of nobility, some of them heirs to immense, wealth and others poor as church mice, but all filled with a genuine zeal for the novel scenes they have enter d upon, and all devoted to their pet, the former Archiduke of Austria, whose reputation as a dashing, courageous, free hearted gentleman gave him in earlier days a sort of Prince Hal character, which always takes with the masses in Europe, when allied to good sense and generosity of spirit.

The French soldiers, on the whole, appear to better advantage here than the Austrian legion accels all others from Europe. But the French look more like genuine campaigners than the others. Perhaps one reason is that the Zouaves, who compose most of that force in Mexico, are the pek of the French army, and have been acclimated in Africa, while the others have seen less active service. The meetings of the French and Austrians in the streets and cife is sometimes a little awkward, owing to certain reminiscences of Solferino and Magenta not always very seminiscences of So

Porfirio Diaz is expected here to morrow from Oajaca. To so distinguished a captive it is popularly expected elemency will be shown. But where the line between clemency and military r.gor will be finally drawn is not known.

expected ciemency will be shown. But where the line between clemency and military r.gor will be finally drawn is not known.

A few days ago the Honorable Peter Campbell Scarlett, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Pienipotentiary from Great Britain to the Mexican empire, presente, his credentials to Maximilian, at the palace, in this city. The usual felicitations passed, and the letters from Queen Victoria to the Emperor and Empress are published in the daily papers. Mr. Scarlett has filled a number of important diplomatic stations representing Great Britain near European courts, and evidently to the satisfaction of the Queen, for she says in her letter to the Emperor:—'From the large experience which I have of the capacity of Mr. Scarlett, and of his zeal in my service, I are persuaded that he will discharge the important duties of his mission in such a manner as to win the estimation and confidence of your imperial Majesty and justify my selection of him to reside at your court.'

The Canaris Aport ms userson or soccast and the court of the result of the manner of the passed through here everyed weeks since—of general, Havana for conora. It appears the car coulc from rived there, and me has a manifest in a rather received in the prain second mazatian and telegraphed due course of main, and probably no one is more astonished than 'Animalian to bear that he has sheed off so second and animalian to bear that he has sheed off so second and animalian to be empire to suit the Francesch and may batch of news to nave stated that it is a superial government bad sold Lower

h had been seen to be seen to have stated in this mary batch of news to have stated in the more stated in the state of the more stated in the state of the more stated in the more stated in the state of t

ing with patriotism, and speeches redolent of and Stripes, are to be the order of the evening and By the English steamer leaving Vera Cruz early the I will forward an outline of the proceedings.

HAVANA, March 4, 1866 STAILS OF THE LATE IMPERIAL SUCCESSES

The Spanish mail has not brought the expected deta the capture of Oajaca city. We have instead only the conic despatch sent to the capital by Marshal Bazaine, amounting that event in the following terms:—"Oajaca as capitulated to-night. Porfirio Dias and the garrison ader at discretion. All the armament is in our pos-m. I have the honor to offer my congraulations to

My own impression is that there was no fight—that the Franch opened a severe fire on the city, quickly destroy-ing a portion of it, and Diaz, finding that his troops would not fight, saw no prospect but flight or uncondi-tional surrender. It is said he did both; but did not sucto escape. I venture to assert that neither he nor any of his officers has been shot—eimply because he was a regubound to treat him as such. Some individuals who had, quence of certain promises made in a printed circular which found its way into the French camp, were shot as soon as found. This may have given rise to the report that Diaz had been executed.

It is supposed that the fall of Oajaca will insur

ification not only of the State of that name, but also those of Puebla and Vera Cruz, and the recover of Chiapas and Tabasco.

We have some details of the defeat and death of the famous Rojas, which I will give you in a few words:—On the 28th of January an infantry company, under the command of a Captain Berthelin, together with fifty mounted men, under Captain Miranda, surprised the camp of Rojas at Potrerillos, in the southern part of Jalisco, and scattered his astonished troops to the four winds, killing about sixty, among whom was Rojas. The surprise must have been complete, since there were eight hundred men in the camp—three hundred infantry and five hundred cavalry. Four hundred hosses were captured, one hundred mules and a large quantity of muskets, lances, ammunition, clothing and stores. Rojas was a man more remarkable for his crueity than anything else, and a few months ago narrowly escaped death at the hands of Arteaga, at that time his commanding officer, for atrocities which are too shocking for description. His death is therefore a great blessing to the poor people of Jalisco and those on the borders of Zacatecas, Michoacan and Aguascalientes, to whom he was a scourge and a terror. nous Rojas, which I will give you in a few words:—On

large party. Hearing of the plot against his life and liberty, a plot which consisted in simply hemming him in between superior forces, he retreated rapidly, towards the close of January, till he reached Apatzingan, where he considered himself asfe for a while, having marched twenty leagues with his men the previous day, a feat which he thought would place him beyond the reach of his pursuers. But he was mistaken. On the 31st of January he was completely surprised in his camp, where two hundred of his men were siain, and he, with a hundred and sixty others, captured. It is said he was found concealed in the top of a tamarind tree, into which one of the victors had pursued a terrified chicken. The official despatch does not state that he was wounded. He was immediately sent to Toluca, where he is to be tried by a court martial, and I would not give much for his life, if he is one of those who signed the "Instructions." Mendez, the guerilla leader who attacked and destroyed the town of Linarys, in Nuevo Leon, was attacked and routed a few days later by Colonel Gayon, who captured over two hundred horses and a quantity of arms and ammunition. But the men escaped and would be mounted again in a few days. Marshal Bazaine ought to punish any officer who loses his time capturing horses and mules.

NEWS FROM NEW ORLEANS.

New ORLEANS, March 1, 1865.

Acting Rear Admiral Thatcher arrived here yesterday and to day assumed command of the West Gulf squad ron, vice Commodore Palmer. The latter officer will sommand the vessels left at New Orleans.

The steamer Arizona, just fitted up as a flagship, was destroyed by fire thirty miles below here on Monday night. Five of the crew perished, and several of the officers lost all their effects. The Arizona was one of the

Factories are to be started at different points in the State, and measures are to be taken to relieve the people

hife by speculators.

A bill for the relief of illegally disfranchised people has passed both houses of the Union State Legislature Cetton is easier; sales of low middling at 70c, a 72c., middling at 74c, and street middling at 75c. Sugar ranges at 21c a 23c. Melasses, \$1 a gallon. Cotton freights to New York \$4c.

The Susquehanna Hiver.

Batamone, March 9, 1865.

The Susquehanna river is reported clear of for this

SHERIDAN.

His Expedition Up the Shenandoah Valley.

The Battle and Victory Near Waynesboro.

GENERAL EARLY NOT TAKEN

THE UNION LOSS TRIFLING.

Cannon, Prisoners and Supplies Captured.

Rosser Foiled in Attempting to Rescue the Prisoners.

Union Troops Advancing on Lynchburg from Tennessee.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF THE CITY.

Mr. Charles H. Farrell's Despatch.

Winchester, Va., March 8, 1865.
The news of the defeat of General Early and his rebel roops in the upper valley received full confirmation t ing of the First Rhode Island, Fourth, Fifth and Twenty and New York, and the Eighteenth Pennsylvan cavalry, under the command of Colonel Thompson, of the first named regiment, excorting the prisoners cap-

The history of the expedition, from the 27th ult. to Friday, the 2d inst., may be briefly related as follows: imand, consisting of the First division, General Merritt; the Third division of cavalry, General Custer, and one brigade of the Second cavalry division, Colon-Caphart, of the Second Virginia, commanding, with two sections, or four pieces, of artillery, the whole under the command of Major General Sheridan, left their camps near this town early on the morning of the 27th ult. The weather in bad condition, and the streams and rivers in the val Notwithstanding these seemingly impassable obstacles to a march, the Lieutenant General gave the order to move, and it met prompt acquiescence from General Sheridan As the troops rode through town the columns were well ness discernable fo the ranks to once more get a dash at General Early and his army, whom they had so often vanquished. There was another inspiring element which conduced to make the men feel confident. It was in the simple but forcible fact that General Sheridan was to acompany the expedition.

The Third division, General Custer, as it passed through

the town, was particularly remarked for their soldi-riy appearance. At its head was its gallant leader, who had won a proud name by his intrepid deeds. His apcarance on this occasion was unusually striking. He oked more youthful than ever. His golden locks samed over his shoulders, and his jaunty velvet suit of clothes, his sailor shirt, adjusted after the most ap-

General Sheridan did not leave town till the entire expedition had got well on the march. The route of march unacquainted with the topography of this section is macadamized, was found in much better condition fours. The first stream crossed was Cedar creek, which was found much swollen, for reasons already stated. The the battle of the 19th of November last, was found in tolerable condition, and by a little manipulation from the

safe crossing. Straeburg and crossed Codar creek, Toubling river Tom's brook and Ten's creek, arriving at Woodstock shortly before dark, where the troops went into bivous marched a distance of thirty miles. The troop had the wet fields for their couch and the canopy of

night of the expedition passed off quietly. The second day's march was pursued without the

crossed Narrow Passage creek, Stoney creek and Mill creek, and passed through the towns of Edenberg and Hawkinsburg, crossing the north fork of the Shenandoah on a pontoon bridge at a point between Mount Jackson drowned while crossing the stream. The command en-camped at Lincoln's Mills, between New Market and Har-

A. M., the First brigade of the First division, Brigadier General Devins, in the advance. On this day's march the troops crossed Smith's creek, Naked creek and Middle river, the latter nine miles northeast from Staun ton, passing through Harrisonburg, and by Mount Crawford, Hount Sidney and Fort Bellance. After crossing Middle river the troops pushed on to a point within four miles of Staunton, where they went into camp. The distance marched on this the third day was twenty six General Sheridan had at this juncture learned pretty

accurately of the position of the enemy. He learned that up to the day previous Gen. Early had his headquarters in Staunton; that his force was small, and that there was a probable chance to capture the entire force. It appeared that Gen. Early was apprised of the advance of our troops, for the day previous to the entrance of our troops into Staunton he notified the citizens that the Yankee were coming, and it was possible he might not be able to hold the town. The inhabitants acted on his advice, and removed their valuable property to a place of safety. s said among their things moved was the enormous sum of one million of dollars in gold, the property of the banks in the town. This treasure was sent to Charlotte-

after coming into camp, General Sheridan ordered General Devins' brigade, of Merritt's division, to break camp and move forward. The night was dark, wet and un pleasant; but under the direction of faithful guides and scouts they moved on to the town of Staunton, driving the enemy's pickets pell mell before them, passing through the town almost without opposition. From Staunton the brigade took the Rockfish Gap road, which runs east-southeast from the town, and proceeded to Christian's creek, which is seven miles distant. At that point they destroyed a trestie bridge on the Virginia Cen ral Railroad. This was accomplished without opposition from the enemy, when General Devine returned Staunton, where he rejoined the main column.

a commenced raining very hard on the fourth day, yet no time was to be lost. Speridan saw his goal near at hand, and he had the men, the commanders, and the Rank tash Gap road to Waynesbure, where he learned Gan-

eral Early was in force. The distance to the obj

road. This was softened by constant rains so that the mud was nearly two feet deep. The march was neces-sarily slow, but the troops were in excellent spirits, and only too eager to meet the enemy.

When General Custer reached Fisherville, five m

from Waynesbore, he came upon the rebel videttes, but these he sent flying to their camps in quick time. On reaching a point near Waynesbore the column was halted, and a detachment sent forward to reconnoitre. This party soon discovered the enemy, posted on a range of hills near Waynesbore and South river. The rebels had five pieces of artillery in position, commanding the front en which Custer was approaching. General Custer immediately dismounted and duployed two regiments as skirmishers. In the rear of them and on either side of the road were solid regiments. The movement on the specthe whole line moved on the enemy's position.
rebels fired one volley, and then ran like a flock of sh Their attempt to escape was fruitiess, as Ous closed his lines on them, and surrounded nearly entire force of the enemy, capturing eighty-seven com-missioned officers, eleven hundred and sixty-five enlisted men, thirteen State and battle flags, seven cannon, one hundred wagons, ambulances and other vehicles. Am the rebel officers captured were General Early's et staff—Colonel Orr, chief of artillery, and Colonel

burg, commanding brigade. General Early did not attempt to rally or er men, but fled when he saw Custer and his troops ma-nessurering for position. He rode off on a fleet herse, attended by an orderly, and proceeded through the Blue Ridge, via Rockfish Gap, and towards Chariottesville.

It from that General Early despaired of making any successful defence against Sheridan, and on the morning of the day Custar attacked him he caused all surpl stores and six pieces of artillery to be place road train for transportation elsewhere. This train was also captured by General Custar, together with all the spoils, including a large quantity of artillery ammuni The artillery was all destroyed, burst or and the gun carriages destroyed, on account of the ma

The victory was almost a bloodless one, as we only sen or twelve in killed and wounded.

All the rebel wagons captured from the destroyed for the same reason above stated. General Custer remained at Waynesboro un Shexidan, with the main column, came up, and then pushed on through Rockflish Gap to Greenwood, at

report was detached to escort the rebel prisoners to this At last accounts direct from Sheridan General Custe was within a few miles of Charlottesville, an important dan intimated to his officers that he had the game in his

own hands, and it would take a strong card of the enemy

splendid army frees the valley of any regular force.

to this point left Waynesboro on Friday, the 3d inst. They marched eight miles and encamped at Fishers ville. Colonel Thompson, commanding the brigad-finding his supply of food inadequate to me the requirements of his men and the prisoners, sent for ward a detachment to several of the towns through which they were to pess, notifying the inhabitant otherwise they would starve on the read. On read Staunton Colonel Thompson found only a feeble r stored large quantities of supplies in the Lunatic Asylum, a requisition was made on the prisoners were partially supplied with flour and bacon manner and with as much humanity as the ne

The troops were not molested on their return trip until they reached the north fork of the Shenandosh, near termined rebel cavalry force, under General Rosser. It watched an opportunity to rescue the rebel pri crossing the Shenandoah. He boldly rear guard-the Fifth New York cavalry, Major Forcewho suddenly changed direction, faced the re with sabres in hand, and a cheer and a dash, he toh, capturing twenty-seven rebels and killing fifteen others. This charge drove Rosser so far to the rear tha he did not trouble our troops again.

dan sent four couriers, each with a copy of an order to of cavalry to meet the prisoners at or near Mt. Jackson Two of the conriers were killed, and two were captured. The prisoners all arrived in town to-day, footsore and

weary. They were tolerably well clad, but it was re markable to notice the disparity in the ages of the troops. They ranged from lifteen to sixty years of age. Some of them are conscripts, and maist upon it that they never would have gone, into the rebel army were they not forced. From their statements it is said that a large and Central Railroad from Tennessee, and that it had reacted a point very near Lynchberg.

The presences were at once forwarded to Harper's

Ferry, and from thence they will be sent to Point Look

W. Wheeler, of the Twenty fifth New York cavalry, were Captain Otis C. Wyatt, Company B, of First New Hamp-

shire cavalry, was wounded in the left arm. Sergeant John Kehee, of the Eighth New York cavalry vas wounded in the left forearm.

tured while foraging near Staunton.

The exp dition is a great success, and exhibits what our troops can overcome and accomplish when under

such leaders as Sheridan, Custer, Merritt and others of the right dash and spirit, Our Special Washington Despatel

Was uncrov, March 9, 1865.
The latest news from the Shenandoah confirms the

idea held out in this correspondence, that Sheriden's battle with Early must have taken place a few miles from Staunton, and not at Charlottesville. Early's headquarters were known to have been established at that point, whereas Charlottesville and Gordonsville, as points of concentration for supplies for Lee's army, were to be well defended. They were also points on the Orange and Alexandria route to Lynchburg, and importa-rollway junctions, which have never been occupied by our troops since the commencement of the war. About a year ago, when Kilpatrick and Dahigren made their raid on Richmond, General Custer made a demonstration both infantry and cavalry. Having diverted the atten off on his expedition unperceived, Custer returned with some difficulty to camp.

As the Orange and Alexandria, Virginia Central and

Lynchburg railroads, must now be Lee's main sources of supply for his army, it is hardly probable that the keys of the two former—Gordonsville and Charlottesville—would be left unfortified and undefended. It is the much more plausible theory that Sheridan has avoided these points, and endeavored to burn the bridges on the Lynchburg Railroad across the James river, a few miles cast of Lynchburg, and the Danville Railroad, across the Upper Roanoke, a short distance north of Danville, and thus cut off Lee's communications.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF LYNCHBURG.

Information from the Army of the Potomac states that a report is in circulation to the effect that Lynchburg is in our possession, but it cannot be traced to any reliable

Arrival of the Belgian at Portland.